

## GENERAL NOTES.

*Anas crecca* in Connecticut.—November 14, 1889, a resident gunner brought me a fine adult male of this species, which he said he shot as it was flying with another, apparently of the same species, over an open field. It is now in the collection of Mr. John H. Sage of Portland, Conn.—WILLARD E. TREAT, *East Hartford, Conn.*

Barrow's Golden-eye (*Glaucionetta islandica*) near Washington, D. C.—A female Golden-eye, shot on the Potomac River opposite Washington, Nov. 22, 1889, by C. Herbert, was examined by Mr. Ridgway who pronounced it *G. islandica*. The specimen is now in the collection of J. D. Figgins. Besides being new to the avifauna of the District of Columbia, this record appears to extend the southern range of the species in the East about one hundred and fifty miles.—CHARLES W. RICHMOND, *Washington, D. C.*

Second Occurrence of the White-faced Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis guarauna*) in Kansas.—A young female was captured October 17, 1890, on the Arkansas River, near Wichita, and kindly sent me for identification by Dr. R. Matthews, of that city. The first specimen was shot in the fall of 1879, at a lake near Lawrence,—as reported in my 'Catalogue of the Birds of Kansas,'—and is now in the fine collection in 'Snow Hall,' at the State University.—N. S. Goss, *Topeka, Kansas.*

Phalaropes at Swampscott, Massachusetts.—The morning of Aug. 12, 1890, dawned at Swampscott, Mass., with the wind northeast and a cloudy sky. At noon the wind fell to a whole-sail breeze, tempting my brother, Dr. J. A. Jeffries, and myself to try a sail.

After standing to the east for about a mile we noticed a flock of at least three hundred birds, apparently Sandpipers, flying rapidly back and forth about half a mile in-shore of us, and an equal distance off the land. Suddenly, to our surprise, they settled on the water, and we knew they were Phalaropes, birds that appear as a rule, only in small numbers with us and not regularly. In twenty years' sailing we have not seen any in the water in our locality.

From Aug. 12 until Sept. 26 Phalaropes were seen nearly every day we went out, usually in small scattered bunches of from six to twenty birds swimming about on the water, sometimes just out of the breakers and again twelve miles off shore.

All the birds we succeeded in sailing onto were very tame, simply swimming away from our cat-boat to prevent being run down. Yet it was not always easy to take specimens, as a flock seldom remained long in one spot; rising every few minutes they would fly about, alight, and then off again before we could sail one half the distance. Sept. 9 we sailed into the

midst of a flock of several hundred birds, which chanced to settle right in front of us. They were very tame.

All birds taken previous to Sept. 26 were Northern Phalaropes, and while it is not possible to state that all the Phalaropes seen were of the same species, we can say that no individual was noticed with any specially distinct coloring to attract our attention. A single specimen of Red Phalarope was taken Sept. 26 about one mile off shore. It was swimming about alone, and on dissection proved to have been feeding on land insects, probably blown off by the stiff northwester then in full force.

What I desire to call attention to in this case is that a bird of not regular occurrence suddenly appears in large numbers, and once with us remains for six weeks.

As evidence that nearly all birds seen were included in the original flock, I would say that.—1st, the Phalaropes appeared in a flock, after a stiff although short northeast wind. 2nd, On days when many small bunches were seen, we did not see the large flock. 3rd, Birds startled did not seem to us to make any attempt to resume a flight, but simply flew off and settled down again.

Twelve or fifteen were taken, all being very fat.—W. A. JEFFRIES, *Boston, Mass.*

**Golden Eagle at Shelter Island, New York.**—A fine specimen of this noble bird was shot at Shelter Island Heights on the 19th of last October, and brought me to be mounted. It was a female, in young of the year plumage, and exhibited the following measurements (in inches), taken before skinning: length 36.25, extent 82.25, wing 24.87, tail 13.75, culmen 1.75, gape 2.70, tarsus 4.25. The craw and stomach contained the remains of a rabbit. The young man who shot it stated that it was in the act of swooping down upon him, being within a few yards, when he fired, and it fell dead at his feet. This is the first instance of the occurrence of this species here that has come to my notice, and it is a rare record for Long Island.—W. W. WORTHINGTON, *Shelter Island Heights, N. Y.*

**Falco dominicensis Gmel. versus Falco sparveriioides Vig.**—Although the very different looking birds to which the above names, in a restricted sense, respectively belong, usually have been recognized as distinct species, their specific identity was claimed on good evidence as long ago as 1855 by Dr. J. Gundlach, who then stated,\* as he has subsequently on various occasions, that he found the two paired together, and undoubtedly holding the relation to one another of light and dark individual phases. Such relationship, however, seemed so improbable, that most authors (the present writer among the number) have overlooked or declined to accept Dr. Gundlach's testimony, or (as in my own case) have

\* *Erinn. VIII, Jahresb. Deutsch. Orn.-Gess. p. lxxxiv (Journ. für Orn. 1854, extraheft).*